Monday, August 22, 2022

*** OPENING CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER**

O God, open our lips, *and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.* From the rising of the sun to its setting, *we praise your name, O God.*

* REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

By Word and water God renews us this day in the living fountain of God's grace, and raises us with Christ Jesus to live a new life in the Spirit. * OSL Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

* MORNING CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

It is good to give thanks <u>to</u> the *LORD*, to sing praises to your name, <u>O</u> Most *High*; **to declare your steadfast love** <u>in</u> **the morning**, **and your faithful**-<u>**ness**</u> **by night**, to the music of the lute <u>and</u> the *harp*, to the melody <u>of</u> the lyre. For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

*** MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One* be with you; *And also with you.*

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Psalm 1 NRSV

But their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread,

or sit in the seat of scoffers;

² but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

³ They are like trees

planted by streams of water,

which yield their fruit in its season,

and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

- ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- ⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.
- Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.
 But their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

*** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION**

* 1ST READING: Acts 9:19-31 CEV

¹⁹ Then he ate and felt much better.

For several days Saul stayed with the Lord's followers in Damascus. ²⁰ Soon he went to the synagogues and started telling people that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹ Everyone who heard Saul was amazed and said, "Isn't this the man who caused so much trouble for those people in Jerusalem who worship in the name of Jesus? Didn't he come here to arrest them and take them to the chief priests?"

²² Saul preached with such power that he completely confused the Jewish people in Damascus, as he tried to show them that Jesus is the Messiah.

²³ Later some of them made plans to kill Saul, ²⁴ but he found out about it. He learned that they were guarding the gates of the city day and night in order to kill him. ²⁵ Then one night his followers let him down over the city wall in a large basket.

²⁶ When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to join the followers. But they were all afraid of him, because they did not believe he was a true follower. ²⁷ Then Barnabas helped him by taking him to the apostles. He explained how Saul had seen the Lord and how the Lord had spoken to him. Barnabas also said when Saul was in Damascus, he had spoken bravely in the name of Jesus.

²⁸ Saul moved about freely with the followers in Jerusalem and told everyone about the Lord. ²⁹ He was always arguing with the Jews who spoke Greek, and so they tried to kill him. ³⁰ But the followers found out about this and took Saul to Caesarea. From there they sent him to the city of Tarsus.

³¹ The church in Judea, Galilee, and Samaria now had a time of peace and kept on worshiping the Lord. The church became stronger, as the Holy Spirit encouraged it and helped it grow.

> Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God!

***** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* GOSPEL READING: John 6:52-59 CEV

⁵² They started arguing with each other and asked, "How can he give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³ Jesus answered:

I tell you for certain that you won't live unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man. ⁵⁴ But if you do eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will have eternal life, and I will raise you to life on the last day. ⁵⁵ My flesh is the true food, and my blood is the true drink. ⁵⁶ If you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you are one with me, and I am one with you.

⁵⁷ The living Father sent me, and I have life because of him.
Now everyone who eats my flesh will live because of me.
⁵⁸ The bread that comes down from heaven isn't like what your ancestors ate. They died, but whoever eats this bread will live forever.

⁵⁹ Jesus was teaching in a synagogue in Capernaum when he said these things.

Holy wisdom, holy word. *Thanks be to God!*

*** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION**

* CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH We bless you, Adonai, <u>God</u> of *Israel*, for you come to visit us and ransom us from *bondage*.

You have brought forth a <u>strong</u> De-*liverer* in the house of <u>your</u> child *David*.

This is what your holy prophets an-nounced: deliverance from enemies and from the hand of all who hate us: mercy a-mong our ancestors, and remembrance of your ho-ly covenant. This is the promise you swore to our an-cestor, Abraham, to make us un-a-fraid. to rescue us from our *enemies*, to serve before you, holy and just, all the days of our lives. And this, my little child, shall be called prophet of the Most High, going before you, Adonai, to pre-pare your paths, making your people know de-liverance by the forgiveness of their sins. Through your merciful compassions, God our God, the dawn from on high shall visit us, to shine on those kept in dungeons and the shadows of *death* and to guide our feet onto the path of peace. Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*, one God, now and for-ever, A-men.

*** SILENCE FOR REFLECTION**

*** THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father Almighty. From there he shall come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

*** PRAYERS**

The Holy One be with you,

and also with you.

Let us pray: (stop and pray for those on your heart today)

PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that *their* weaknesses may be banished and *their* strength restored; and that with health being renewed, *all* may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

* <u>PRAYER FOR CONSERVATION of Natural Resources</u> Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* PRAYERS FOR CITIES

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that Holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

PRAYER OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*** CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, You have brought us in safety to this new day: preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. *Amen.*

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at Elwood United Methodist Church

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